

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A method of locating lost pets comprising the steps of:

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(a) issuing a rabies tag to a pet, the rabies tag displaying information comprising a veterinarian name, a veterinarian's phone number, alpha-numeric digits that identify the pet, and a listed year corresponding to when the tag was issued;

a1  
(b) ~~prompting pet owners to provide~~ submitting the rabies tag information relating to their pets ~~the pet and pet owner~~ contact information ~~for the pet owners~~ to a computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer, whereby a submitting party is selected from the group consisting of a veterinarian and pet owner;

(c) storing the ~~pet~~ rabies tag information and the ~~pet owner~~ contact information in a computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer;

(d) ~~prompting~~ issuing a second tag to a pet that provides information to a person who finds a lost pet to ~~on how to~~ access the host computer via a communications network and to enter ~~lost pet information~~ the rabies tag information relating to the lost pet;

(e) comparing in the host computer ~~the lost pet information~~ the rabies tag information, entered by the person who found the pet to ~~the pet information~~ the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners in an attempt to find a match; and

(f) ~~if a match is found,~~ providing the person who found the lost pet with the contact information for the owner of the lost pet if a match is found.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (original) The method as set forth in claim 1, the communications network including the Internet.

02 7. (currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, the pet information ~~being~~ comprising information selected from the group consisting of ~~a veterinarian's a name for~~ of the pet, ~~the veterinarian's phone number,~~ a licensing agency, ~~a number from a rabies tag for the pet,~~ a year ~~that~~ the pet was vaccinated, an indication of a pet type for the pet, an indication of a breed of the pet, a color of the pet, a date the pet was found, and a location where the pet was found.

8. (currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, the contact information ~~being~~ comprising information selected from the group consisting of the pet owner's name, the pet owner's address, and the pet owner's telephone number, ~~a veterinarian for the pet, the veterinarian's address, and the veterinarian's phone number.~~

9. (currently amended) A computer program stored on a computer-readable memory device for operating a computer to aid in locating lost pets, the computer program comprising:

(a) a code segment for receiving from pet owners pet rabies tag information, pet information relating to ~~their~~ pets and contact information for the pet owners selected from the group consisting of a veterinarian and pet owner;

(b) a code segment for storing the rabies tag information, the pet information and the contact information in computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer;

(c) a code segment for permitting a person who finds a pet to access the host computer via a communications network and to enter lost pet rabies tag information relating to the lost pet;

(d) a code segment for comparing the ~~lost pet rabies tag~~ information entered by the person who found the pet to the rabies tag information ~~and the pet information~~ provided by the pet owners or the veterinarian in an attempt to find a match; and

(e) a code segment for providing the person who found the lost pet with the contact information for the owner of the lost pet if a match is found.

10. (currently amended) The computer program as set forth in claim 9, wherein ~~the pet information~~ the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners or veterinarian for each pet includes ~~an assigned set of~~ alpha-numeric digits corresponding to the pet, a year on the tag, veterinarian name, and a phone number for the pet's veterinarian.

11. (currently amended) The computer program as set forth in claim 10, the ~~lost pet rabies tag~~ information entered by the person who found the lost pet including the ~~assigned set of~~ alpha-numeric digits on the rabies tag that correspond to the pet, the name for the pet's veterinarian, the phone number for the pet's veterinarian, and year on the tag.

12. (original) The computer program as set forth in claim 9, the communications network including the Internet.

13. (currently amended) The computer program as set forth in claim 9, the pet information ~~being comprising~~ information selected from the group consisting of a ~~veterinarian's name for the pet's name~~, ~~the veterinarian's phone number~~, ~~a number from a rabies tag for the pet~~, ~~a year that the pet was vaccinated~~, an indication of a pet type for the pet, an indication of a breed of the pet, a color of the pet, a date the pet was found, and a location where the pet was found.

14. (currently amended) The computer program as set forth in claim 9, the contact information ~~being comprising~~ information selected from the group consisting of the pet owner's

name, the pet owner's address, and the pet owner's telephone number, ~~a veterinarian for the pet,~~  
~~the veterinarian's address, and the veterinarian's phone number.~~

15. (currently amended) A host computer accessible via a communications network to aid in locating lost pets, the host computer being programmed to:

- (a) receive ~~from pet owners~~ rabies tag information, pet information relating to ~~their~~ pets and contact information for the pet owners from a group consisting of pet owner and veterinarian;
- (b) store the rabies tag information, the pet information and the contact information in a computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer;
- (c) permit a person who finds a pet to access the host computer via a communications network and to enter ~~lost pet~~ rabies tag information relating to the lost pet;
- (d) compare the ~~lost pet~~ rabies tag information entered by the person who found the pet to the rabies tag information and the pet information provided by the pet owners or the veterinarian in an attempt to find a match; and
- (e) provide the person who found the lost pet with the contact information for the owner of the lost pet if a match is found.

16. (currently amended) The host computer as set forth in claim 15, wherein ~~the pet~~ information the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners or the veterinarian for each pet includes ~~an assigned set of~~ alpha-numeric digits corresponding to the pet, a name for the pet's veterinarian, a phone number for the pet's veterinarian, and year on the tag.

17. (currently amended) The host computer as set forth in claim 16, the lost pet information entered by the person who found the lost pet including the ~~assigned set of~~ alpha-numeric digits

on the rabies tag that correspond to the pet, the name for the pet's veterinarian, the year on the tag, and the phone number for the pet's veterinarian.

18. (original) The host computer as set forth in claim 15, the communications network including the Internet.

19. (currently amended) The host computer as set forth in claim 15, the pet information ~~being~~ comprising information selected from the group consisting of a pet's name, ~~veterinarian's name~~ ~~for the pet, the veterinarian's phone number, a number from a rabies tag for the pet, a year that the pet was vaccinated,~~ an indication of a pet type for the pet, an indication of a breed of the pet, a color of the pet, a date the pet was found, and a location where the pet was found.

20. (currently amended) The host computer as set forth in claim 15, the contact information ~~being~~ comprising information selected from the group consisting of the pet owner's name, the pet owner's address, and the pet owner's telephone number, ~~a veterinarian for the pet, the veterinarian's address, and the veterinarian's phone number.~~